The North Shore Country Day School













The North Shore Country Day School • 310 Green Bay Road • Winnetka, Illinois 60093
Phone: (312) 446-0674

"North Shore is a school family of strong minds where wit, intelligence, joy and conflict are parts of the whole and, as with families, we do not disengage."... a parent

Dear Prospective Student:

This brochure will introduce The North Shore Country Day School to you. It is very important that you read it thoroughly, as it will serve as a basis for your questions about the daily life of students here. Several characteristics of our School should be primary considerations when you make a decision about your education.

We are a college preparatory school, with academic standards designed to prepare students for the most competitive colleges and universities.

Instruction at North Shore takes place in small classes. We believe that, although instruction can happen in large groups, the most effective learning is found in small groups with a first-rate teaching force.

We believe that education takes place within and outside the classroom. This is reflected throughout the year in enrichment programs.

Participation in many different segments of school life is of crucial significance here.

We are a school filled with the traditions of over sixty years of leadership in independent education in the Chicago area as well as in the nation. Our students are able to profit from and share in the experience of many loyal alumni.

We are a family school. Specifically that means that students in the entire School, grades K-12, interact often. That means also that the participation of your parents is encouraged in many school activities. The atmosphere of the School is one of respect for learning which encourages students to test their abilities.

Please be sure that you are thorough in your investigation of North Shore. Ask about the daily events that make this School a special place. Both we and you must be sure that this is the best school for you. Your choice of school is one of the most important decisions of your life. Make it with care.

Richard P. Hall, Headmaster



"The atmosphere here is totally different from any other school I have attended. The students are here to learn and to support the school activities, and the teachers are very helpful and willing to offer any extra help needed."... a student







WHO ATTENDS NORTH SHORE?

One of the first impressions you will have while visiting North Shore is the diversity of our students. We enroll boys and girls from all races, creeds, and backgrounds, whose common denominator is found in their high academic potential. With this wide span of backgrounds our students gain good insight into diverse thoughts and lifestyles and through this exposure develop an understanding and appreciation for other viewpoints.

Our students live in all North Shore suburbs as well as Chicago on the south and Waukegan on the north. Convenient public transportation and school buses serve our students. Twenty-seven communities are represented at North Shore.

WHY DO STUDENTS CHOOSE NORTH SHORE?

There are probably as many different reasons for choosing North Shore as there are children enrolled: excellent academics, a superb fine arts program, Music Major programs, opportunities for participating in many different activities, assurance of a place on an athletic team, personalized college counseling, and the ability to be a visible member of the group, to be known by the faculty. Each individual is a recognized member of the community.

"My favorite part about North Shore is that you can participate in as many things as you want. You can be on any sports team, or on the newspaper and yearbook staff, or be an opera star. You can do one of these things or all of them at once if you want to. Another good part is that the kids are so nice. You get to know everyone well. It's just great."... a student

WHAT MAKES NORTH SHORE SPECIAL?

In looking at independent schools you'll find that each one has its own personality. A school's basic philosophy, its traditions, as well as the physical campus, give a school its definition.

Academic Standards

In a program directed to the above average student, academics at North Shore nurture the individual's natural curiosity about himself and the world. Small classes, individualized programs, and a stimulating environment lead to high academic standards.

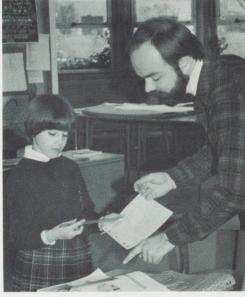
Faculty

A respect for students and a respect for learning exemplifies our talented and dedicated faculty. Here, in small classes, teachers have the opportunity to work closely with students, giving individual attention, often counseling, sometimes prodding, but always encouraging and stimulating. We maintain a ratio of nine students to each teacher.

Involvement

Students at North Shore are encouraged to participate in as many activities as interest them. In a small school, students can act, sing, play in sports, write for the publications, cheerlead, and enjoy a wealth of activities without having to 'star'. Such possibilities for well-rounded involvement are rare in schools and North Shore, as a small community, opens these doors of opportunities.







"The sports program at North Shore is a very special one. You don't have to be a super jock to be on a team, you just have to want to play the sport, to be willing to go to practice, and to try your hardest." ... a student







Family Community

North Shore has a family orientation. From Kindergarten through Upper School there are many unusual opportunities to know and work with younger and older students. Morning Exercise, when the School assembles for announcements and programs three times a week, finds the kindergarteners sitting on the seniors' laps. Such responsibility, understanding, and caring, which are rare ingredients of a school, exemplify student life at North Shore.

The School offers many other unique experiences. A campsite-farm located a short two-hour drive from the campus takes students into beautiful wooded acreage, where they sometimes camp overnight; all-school work days, as much fun as work, pair vounger and older students in seasonal campus clean-up and bulb planting; tutoring programs bring Upper School students into Lower School classrooms for constructive, supervised, one-to-one tutoring; festivals and holiday celebrations merge grades for parties, folk dancing and projects. Students know younger and older boys and girls, and their friendships erase age boundaries.

Arts Program

Music, drama, and art encourage the students' expression of feelings and ideas and their appreciation of aesthetics.

Music: The Orff and Suzuki instrumental methods are both offered in the Lower School, and singing is developed year by year to the advanced repertoire presented by the Upper School chorus, Sangerbund, and Camerata Vocale. A faculty of instrumental teachers at the Music Center of the North Shore, located on our campus, provides for private lessons on nearly any instrument. The North Shore Youth Orchestra offers an opportunity for ensemble performance.

"All of the athletic, academic, dramatic, and social events that occur at North Shore are aimed at doing one thing...building the character of the person who participates in each event. Whether it be calling your own plays on the football field, getting your own band for the dance, or doing an outside project in art, or even if it's just doing a daily assignment in class, each student is treated in a very adult manner."... a student

Drama: Throughout the fourteen years students are encouraged to perform in Morning Exercise. Plays, readings, lectures, and improvisations emerge from many classrooms for public performance. Introductory classes in theatre and acting begin in Middle School. Each spring Middle School produces a musical show. At the Upper School level, in addition to an introductory dramatics course, full credit courses are offered in acting, stagecraft, directing and scenic design.

Upper School produces three major presentations each year: a fall play, a Gilbert and Sullivan opera, and spring one-act plays. Under the direction of the Upper School Dramatics Department, these productions are staged as evening performances for parents and friends. Art: Art begins in the kindergarten studio where easels, paints, and smocks are always available. The program moves on into the Lower and Middle School art rooms where ceramics, sculpture and design are introduced and where, by eighth grade, a student may be doing advanced work in ceramics. In Upper School, following an introductory course, a student may elect courses in graphics, photography, drawing, sculpture, and ceramics. The School's highly respected faculty is complemented by spacious and well-lighted studios.

Sports and Physical Education

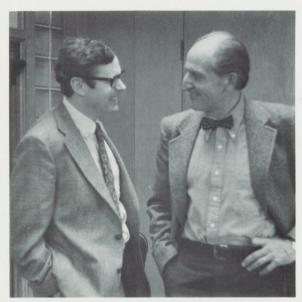
The physical education program, which provides recreation and promotes good health and physical development, begins in the Lower School with individual and team activities.

In the Middle School physical education includes a variety of individual and team sports and participation in interscholastic competition. Upper School physical education stresses team sports and participation. Every student is allowed to play on a team. Boys have the opportunity to play football, soccer, basketball, tennis, and baseball in competition with other schools. Girls play field hockey, tennis, volleyball, basketball, and softball in league competition.





"Individual attention by patient, caring and dedicated teachers in developing fundamental academic skills is the emphasis at North Shore."...a Lower School parent





PHILOSOPHY AND OBJECTIVES

The School

The North Shore Country Day School is an independent, co-educational college preparatory day school for students in Junior Kindergarten through grade 12, who are admitted on the basis of intellectual promise. The School offers rigorous academic preparation in pursuit of educational excellence. The School is committed to both the academic and personal development of its students through interaction between fine teachers and small groups of students. There is ample opportunity for individual attention in an intimate and congenial environment.

Academic Goals

The School seeks to:

- Develop intellectual curiosity, problem solving skills, effective communication, creative expression, self-discipline, and the ability to organize, implement, and evaluate.
- 2. Support inquiry, controversy, healthy skepticism, with thoughtful respect for others' beliefs.
- Cultivate intellectual, artistic and physical skills, both inside and outside the classroom.
- 4. Provide broad experience in many academic disciplines, while offering opportunities to develop special competence in selected areas.
- Foster self-confidence, initiative and self-sufficiency, as well as a realistic understanding of one's abilities and achievements.
- 6. Develop a sense of satisfaction from intellectual pursuits.

"The contrast with the large public high school I came from was at first somewhat bewildering. Eventually I learned each of us was expected to be himself — that somehow this school had taught its students to encourage one another to express themselves and that each of us who attempted something could expect the support of his classmates."...a student

Social Goals

It is important for the School to provide opportunities for:

- 1. Interaction with an interesting and diversified student body and faculty.
- 2. Service to others within and outside the School community.
- 3. Addressing issues of social concern and life experience.
- Developing friendships and sharing experience across a broad range of ages.
- 5. Cooperation with one another, understanding one's own feelings and those of others, accountability for one's actions, and development of a sense of responsibility within the community (home, school, local and world).
- 6. Participation in total group effort.

Faculty

Faculty members are selected for competence in subject matter and for their sense of responsibility for the total education of the students committed to their charge. They are dedicated to helping students reach their fullest potential. In addition, teachers serve as models. The "good teacher" is distinguished by clarity, consistency, and integrity and by the ability to relate well to students and to other adults in the School community.

Parents

Parents play an important role in this family School. A cooperative relationship between School and home is important to the development of the student. Lines of communication should remain open among parents, faculty and administration. Parents actively participate in School functions.







"Parents are involved here, not just because they care about their kids and the quality of their education, but because they enjoy being here."...a parent









LOWER SCHOOL

Kindergarten, Grades 1, 2, 3, 4, 5

The Kindergarten is a combined group of four-and five-year-olds. Four-year-olds attend mornings only; five-year-olds may elect to attend all day in the fall or mornings only, and are required to attend all day beginning in January. A kindergarten-first grade interim year is offered those children who would benefit from an extra year before entering first grade.

In a warm, open environment our young children play and learn together, find their natural curiosity stimulated, learn to organize their activities and listen to a teacher, and feel good about themselves while preparing for first grade. Creative play with a wealth of materials, story time and dramatizations, their own art room, regular music classes and gym time are special features of our Kindergarten.

Grades 1 through 5 have a carefully developed program in reading, language arts, arithmetic, social studies, science, music, art, and physical education. In a supportive environment our young boys and girls gain a sense of well-being and of belonging to a larger social and cultural community... the whole School.

These early years are spent mastering basic academic skills with instruction individualized to the student's needs. In addition to the classroom teacher, the faculty includes specialists in reading, art, music, and physical education.

Lower School holds its own special assemblies Friday afternoons. Here the boys and girls share their talents with music, plays, skits, and enjoy programs sponsored by the School.

Each classroom teacher involves the students in several field trips throughout the school year, which are integrated with their course of study.

Student progress is shared with parents through written reports and conferences. Communication between parents and teachers is frequent and is easily available. "I believe that our principal job in a school here is to increase awareness of our own world and of the world around us."...a teacher









"North Shore is more than a school. It's a place where you get to know yourself as well as others. It's a place where students know teachers and teachers know students. It's a place where self-confidence builds with the chance to try things you never knew you could do. Competition is not important. No one tries to outdo the other. Everyone works for self-satisfaction. It's a place where you're really someone, not just another face in the crowd."... a student







MIDDLE SCHOOL

Grades 6, 7, 8

Middle School represents the years of rapid growth and development, varied and ever changing interests, intense involvement, and the desire to try new things. In all pursuits children are helped to develop an organized and disciplined approach to tasks, to act on their own initiative, and to develop independence.

Classes of core curricula at 6th grade ease the transition from the classroom of Lower School to the departmentalized instruction at 7th and 8th grades. From the day's beginning in the homeroom, through classes in English, mathematics, social studies, science, and for 7th and 8th grades. French or Latin, the students enjoy small classes with high academic standards. The curriculum includes courses in art, music, drama, shop, and writing lab, as well as physical education. Team sports with other schools, social activities, theatrical productions, and frequent field trips enrich the daily schedule.

A Music Major for musically talented Middle School students is a unique feature of North Shore. Beginning in 6th grade students enrolling in the Music Major program can pursue an intensive musical study of either voice or instrument through our own faculty and teachers at the Music Center of the North Shore on our campus, while fulfilling the academic requirements at North Shore. Scheduling, when possible, is complete within the school day. The Music Major program continues into the Upper School, where the course of study qualifies graduates to enter college schools of music and conservatories. A separate brochure details this program.

"These Middle School years are the most turbulent times for our growing children, and I've found that North Shore provides the special guidance they need – while giving students a solid academic program."... a parent







"NSCDS is a happy place. People enjoy themselves here, which I think makes them better motivated to work harder. The atmosphere at North Shore is casual and it makes one feel at home. At the same time, the academics are rigorous, but within such an atmosphere I'm more willing to work for my own pleasure. I don't feel pushed into it."... a student







UPPER SCHOOL

Grades 9, 10, 11, 12

The college preparatory program prepares our students for the most exacting liberal arts and technical colleges and universities in the country. A strong curriculum offers the major disciplines of English, foreign language, mathematics, social studies, science, fine arts including music, drama, and art, and a tutorial independent study program for students wanting to pursue a study beyond the level provided in catalogue courses. Advanced placement courses are also offered in several major subject areas. A new program in computer literacy which begins in Lower School is described in the Upper School Curriculum catalog.

A special feature at North Shore is its Music Major curriculum for the serious musician. Sponsored jointly by North Shore and the Music Center of the North Shore on our campus, the program offers intensive musical training together with the required academic disciplines, qualifying its graduates for college schools of music and conservatories.

College counseling at North Shore is illustrative of the close personal attention each student receives. The Head of Upper School works with each student and the parents, and a professional college consultant visits the campus each fall for several days of meetings with both students and parents.

Interim Week, for 8th graders and Upper School students, offers many exciting subjects for an in-depth learning experience beyond the classroom. In pursuits suggested by both students and teachers, an intensive week of involvement strengthens current interests and introduces new directions for our students.

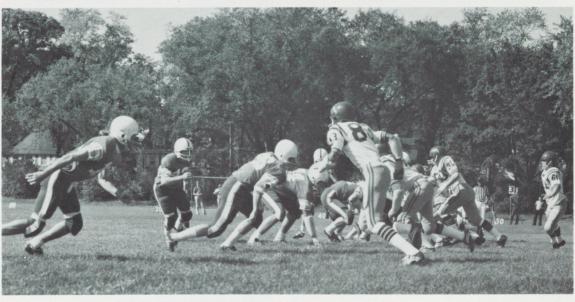
Enriching components of our student community are our students from abroad. Through membership in the English-Speaking Union and the Experiment in International Living, North Shore hosts several Upper School students from other countries. Additional diversity in our student body is developed through the School's membership in A Better Chance, a national organization which identifies qualified students from minority sectors.

"Almost as parents, teachers take great personal pride in student success. I remember my French teacher who was so ecstatic when one of her students got an 800 on his French Achievement Test that she was hardly able to run class that day."... an alumna

















ADMISSIONS

The Admissions Committee looks for candidates with strong records who are motivated and have the ability to succeed in a college preparatory school. Important factors in the selection process are strong character and special interests that each applicant would bring to the School, as well as evidence of interest in participation in all school activities. Candidates are admitted without discrimination as to race, creed, sex, religion, or national origin, on the basis of current school records, performance on standardized tests, recommendations from current teachers, and a school visit, which includes a personal interview.

The North Shore Country Day School has no program to accommodate those students with severe learning disabilities or social problems.

The School accepts the greatest number of students in 6th, 7th, and 9th grades where there are increases in the number of sections. Most applications are received during the fall and winter months preceding the year of entry, but applications are accepted throughout the year, and admissions are made when space is available. All applications will be acted upon beginning in January, within two weeks of completion of the applications process.

All admissions are competitive and there is no prioritized waiting list. When there is an opening, the candidate is chosen who is most suited to the program in order to produce the best possible balance for the group as a whole in the judgement of the Admissions Committee.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

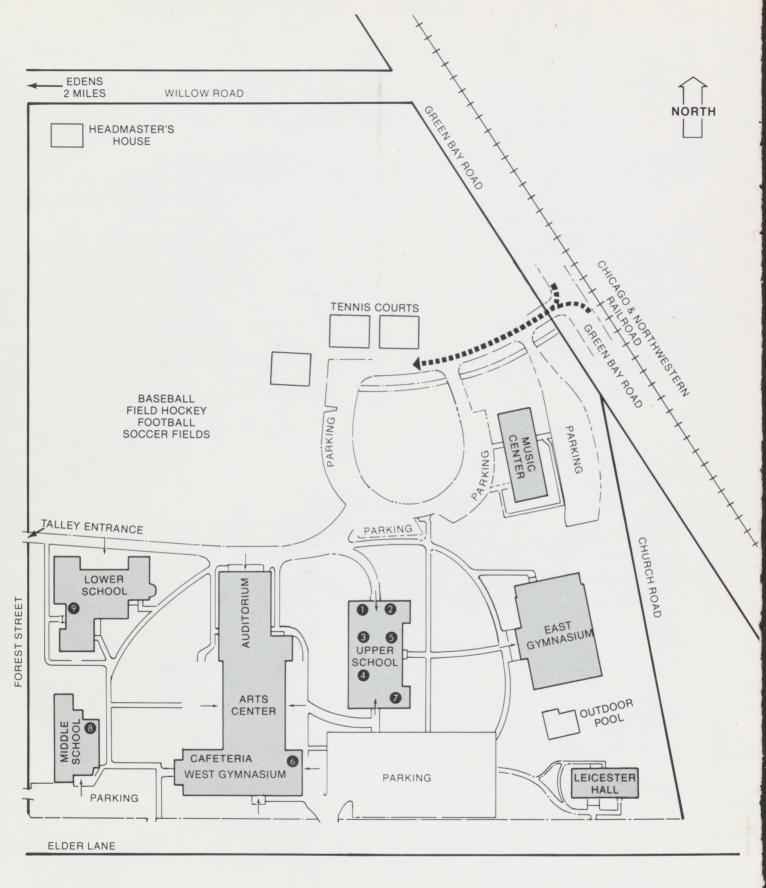
The School maintains a scholarship program which offers financial assistance to well-qualified students with need. Funding is based on nationally accepted formulas as recommended by the School Scholarship Service in Princeton, N.J. Families seeking financial assistance and information concerning scholarships should contact the Financial Aid Officer as early in the year as possible, as most awards are made in March. Deferred tuition loans are sometimes part of the financial aid package.

ANNUAL GIVING

Consistent with the experience of virtually all private independent schools and colleges, the tuition paid by The North Shore Country Day School parents does not completely offset the School's operating expenses. The deficit is largely made up through contributions to the Annual Giving campaign received from parents, alumni and friends of the School. The Bellringer campaign, a section of Annual Giving, is directed by parents and is dependent on the support of the parent body.







- 1 HEADMASTER
- 2 LAIRD BELL ROOM
- 3 RECEPTION
- 4 ADMISSIONS OFFICE
- 6 BUSINESS OFFICE
- 6 MAINTENANCE OFFICE
- ADMINISTRATION-UPPER SCHOOL
- 3 ADMINISTRATION-MIDDLE SCHOOL
- ADMINISTRATION-LOWER SCHOOL

History of The North Shore Country Day School

Founded: 1919 by Perry Dunlap Smith

Headmaster: Richard P. Hall

> Campus: Sixteen acres, seven academic

buildings, Headmaster's house, faculty apartments, spacious playing

fields, three tennis courts, pool

Enrollment: K-12, approximately 400 students, 47

faculty

Accreditation: Independent Schools Association of

the Central States

Recognized By: Illinois State Department of

Education

Memberships National Association of Independent

Schools

and

Affiliations: Secondary School Admission Test

Board, Inc.

English-Speaking Union A Better Chance

College Entrance Examination Board

Educational Records Bureau

Past Headmasters: Perry Dunlap Smith, 1919-1954

Nathaniel S. French, 1954-1968 George F. Eldredge, 1968-1973

Douglas C. Macdonald, 1973-1979

Established in 1919 by a group of local citizens, The North Shore Country Day School has consistently offered a superior college preparatory education in an atmosphere conducive to personal growth and development.

Located in an area where education is highly valued, the School profits from this stimulus by the support and involvement of its parents. Through the Parents Association, they elect the Board of Directors and maintain committees for volunteer service in the libraries, lunch room, switchboard, athletics and enrichment programs.

Photographs by:

Andy Bresler '82 Nancy Jones Emrich Lana Cory Hall Robert Kleiman '82 Robert Kramer Barbara Modisett Stuart Rogers '74 Stuart Rodgers Studio



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